

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 14, as follows:

The document assumes that the Internet is basically a “connectionless” environment. Interestingly, on page 39, left hand column, at paragraphs 2-3 the author mentions the existence of ~~an~~identifiable connections used by protocols such as TCP/IP, but discounts the possibility of usage-based accounting using these connections because “the higher-level protocol headers are not processed by the network equipment where accounting takes place”.